

PARENT-YOUNG ADULT CONFLICT: A MEASUREMENT ON FREQUENCY AND INTENSITY OF CONFLICT ISSUES

Emine ÖZMETE *

Ayşe Sezen BAYOĞLU**

Abstract

This research was carried out on 180 university students in order to investigate parent-young adults/late adolescent conflict issues. This study was based on interviews with young adults continuing their university education at different universities in Ankara city. Answers given to sentences typed Likert were scored, used "Varimax Analysis Technique" for validity. In order to test reliability of questionnaire were calculated "Cronbach Alpha" as inner consistency of coefficient. The t-test and One Way ANOVA were performed for determining the differences depending on socio-demographic variables. Moreover, the results of "Pearson Correlation Analysis" showed that there was significant correlation between socio demographic variables and study measures.

Key words: Parent-young adult interaction, conflict, conflict issues, young adult period.

INTRODUCTION

Families face to communication challenges and conflicts as family members grow and change. Family life involves constant management of tension between autonomy and connection (Shearman and Dumlao 2008). This tension can result in conflict as young adults claim independence from family members (Grotevant and Cooper 1986). Conflict between young adults and parents may continue for as long as 10 years, though the issues may change as the family redefines itself and changes to a new life stage (Comstock 1994). Communication and conflict between young adults and their parents often involves renegotiating rules, roles and relationships concerning day-to-day issues like activities, friends, responsibilities, and school (Shearman and Dumlao 2008).

Almost as much is written about young adulthood/late adolescence being a storm and stress period" as about adolescence being "for most adolescents and their families as smooth and peaceful transition". Although the notion of storm and stress" appears to be exaggerated, the results of the studies of parent-young adult conflict do indeed indicate that the relationships between parents and young adults deteriorate during adolescence in comparison with parent-child relationships. This worsening of the parent-child relationship is indicated by an increase in conflict, diminished parental satisfaction with parenting and increase in conflict, diminished parental satisfaction with parenting and increased parental stress, and a decrease in the parental support experienced by young adults (Garro et al. 2005; Allison and Schultz 2004; Dekovic 1999; Furman and Buhrmester 1992).

Adolescence has been described as a phase of life beginning in biology and ending in society (Lerner et al. 1998). Indeed, adolescence may be defined as the period within the life span when most of a person's biological, cognitive, psychological, and social characteristics are changing from what is typically considered child-like to what is considered adult-like (Lerner et al. 1998). For the adolescent, this period is a dramatic challenge, one requiring adjustment to changes in the self, in the family, and in the peer group. In contemporary society, adolescent experience institutional changes as well. In this research, participating are in late adolescence period defining as young adults.

Understandably, for both adolescents and their parents, adolescence is a time of excitement and of anxiety; of happiness and of troubles; of discovery and of bewilderment; and of breaks with the past and yet of links with the future. Adolescence can be, then, a confusing time-for the adolescent experiencing this phase of life; for the parents who are nurturing the adolescent during his or her

* Assoc. Prof. Dr., Ankara University, Faculty of Health Sciences Department of Social Work.

** Dr., Ankara University, Faculty of Health Sciences Department of Social Work.

progression through this period; for other adults charged with enhancing the development of youth during this period of life, and- with disturbing, historically unprecedented frequency- for adolescent who themselves find themselves in the role of parents (Coakley et al. 2002; Lerner et al. 1998).

Although these personal characteristics of the adolescent might contribute to conflict, the actual occurrence of conflict also depends on how the parents react to the adolescent and to the changes that accompany this period. In order to allow a sensitive response to the child's changing developmental needs, the parent-child interaction must undergo change during adolescence. One task of the parents is to provide a safe, warm, and affectionate environment in which individuality is encouraged and which facilitates the adolescent's exploration of new physical, cognitive, and social potentials. Another task is to set and to supervise their child's activities. As adolescents become older, providing behavioral guidelines remains an important concern, but gradually becomes secondary to allowing and encouraging the adolescent's independence. Several studies have noted that the most beneficial parenting in adolescence is characterised by a high degree of warmth and acceptance, a high level of monitoring or supervision (Riesch et al. 2005; Dekovic' 1999; Steinberg et al. 1994).

Ineffective parenting might contribute to the parent-adolescent conflict. Parent-adolescent conflict is more common when parents are perceived by the adolescent as uncaring and unsupportive. The way in which parents exercise control is possibly even more important for the parent-adolescent conflict as much of the conflict revolves around the issue of parental control: Adolescent typically seek more freedom from parental constraints than the parents are willing to give (Dekovic' 1999). Parents who respond to adolescents' striving towards autonomy by becoming increasingly authoritarian elicit more negative exchanges with their sons and daughters and more noncompliance with parental demands (Allison and Schultz 2004).

In addition, conflict may be important to the changing dynamics of families with youngs. For example, conflict between adolescents and their parents can serve an adaptive function when it acts as an impetus to change. More important, however, parent-adolescent conflict may be needed as the adolescent individuates from the parent, so that adolescents may seek relationships outside of the family (Dekovic' 1999; Holmbeck and Hill 1991). Thus, although parent-adolescent conflict has been related to poor outcomes for adolescents, it also may serve adaptive functions. Given the demonstrated relationship between parent-adolescent conflict and adolescent outcomes, it is important to examine the characteristics of parent-adolescent conflict further (Renk et al. 2005).

Literature supports the claim that conflict is an integral and inevitable component of parent-adolescent relationships. On the other hand, although conflicts are typical during this period, they are not necessarily problematic for these relationships. In fact, the majority of families with adolescents report satisfying relationships that are generally harmonious (Allison 2000). Conflicts between adolescents and parents and parents in most families are relatively infrequent, short lived.

The aim of this research is to determine frequency and intensity of conflict issues between parents and young adults defined as late adolescent.

LITERATURE REVIEW

Riesch and her colleagues (2003) conducted a study to examine the thinking of parents and young teens about conflict and conflict resolution in their relationship. In their focus group research they found that the young teens thought parents or siblings initiated most disagreements and that such disagreements were routine, and handled conflict with their parents by trying to prevent it. If a conflict ensued, they used emotion, aggression, cooling off, accepting some of the blame, or submission to resolve it. Parents viewed the disagreements as representing their struggles with their role as a parent or opportunities to instill a sense of intrinsic responsibility in their child. Parents used the strategies of setting clear expectations, parental authority, negotiation, cooling down, and feedback to solve disagreements with their teenage children. Consequently they concluded that those parents and young teens do not use a systematic method of solving disagreements but that with structured guidance, the parents and teens were able to resolve conflicts.

Using self-reports from 160 college students, Harp his colleagues (2007) tested two alternative paths of influence between family communication patterns in young adults' family-of-origin and their communicative behavior during conflicts with their romantic partners. Regression analysis revealed

strong and significant associations between family communication patterns-related variables and reported communication behaviors during parent-child conflicts as well as between reported conflict behaviors with parents and with romantic partners.

Shearman and Dumlao (2008) conducted a survey on young adults in Japan (n = 173) and the United States (n = 131) including family communication patterns instrument, conflict styles scale for the family setting, and a family communication satisfaction measure. Individual preferences for each conflict strategy were examined in relation to his or her cultural background and family communication patterns. Results showed that across cultures, high conversation orientation was associated with the young adult's preference for integrating and compromising strategies in conflict with their parents, while high conformity orientation was associated with avoiding and obliging strategies. A strong positive correlation between conversation orientation and communication satisfaction was observed for both countries, while a strong negative correlation between conformity orientation and communication satisfaction was found for Americans.

Çiftçi and her colleagues (2008) indicated in their study with 180 high school students from Ankara, no significant interaction among level of loneliness, conflict resolution strategies, and type of relationship. However, there were significant interactions between conflict resolution strategies and type of relationship, and between conflict resolution strategies and level of loneliness.

Although studies suggested that a comprehensive assessment of parent-adolescent conflict would require a clinician to begin with a description of the topics and process of parent-adolescent conflict have been examined less frequently relative to other characteristics of such conflict. In the studies that have been completed, the majority of conflict between adolescents and their parents is about normal, mundane family matters (Renk et al. 2005; Montemayor 1983). These matters may include household responsibilities, privileges, social life and friends, disobedience, and intrafamilial relationship

Conflicts over matters such as responsibilities, privileges, and relationships are indicative of adolescents' desire for increased autonomy and independence from their parents (Renk et al. 2005; Younnis and Smollar 1985; Montemayor 1983). Conflicts over religious, political, or social issues occur less frequently (Renk et al. 2005; Steinberg et al. 1994), as do conflicts concerning other potentially sensitive topics (Riesch et al. 2000). In contrast, it was suggested that deviance issues, such as lying and substance abuse, are mentioned almost as often as any other issue (Renk et al. 2005; Eckstein 2004; Lerner et al. 1998).

Furthermore, conflict over chores decrease with adolescent age, whereas reports of autonomy-related issues, homework, and academic achievement increase with adolescent age (Smetana and Gaines 2003; Renk et al. 2005). Given these differences based on the gender and age of adolescents, conflicts between adolescents and their parents regarding these matters also may differ with the gender and age of adolescents.

MATERIAL AND METHOD

As has been mentioned earlier this study was planned to determine frequency and intensity of conflict issues between the parent and young adults/late adolescent with view of young adults.

The purpose of this study was to examine parent-young adults conflict during period of youth. In this investigation, the frequency and intensity of conflict during the years of youth.

The study search answer some questions;

1. Which issues lead to conflict between parent and young adults?
2. What are the frequency and intensity of conflict issues between parent and young adults?
3. Is there a meaningful relation between the parent and young adults conflict issues and some variables such as gender, age, base of academic field, number of family members and number of siblings?

This study covered a total of 180 volunteers, consisting 103 female and 77 male continuing their university education at different universities (Ankara University, Gazi University and Hacettepe University) in Ankara (Capital city of Turkiye).

Measures

The data were obtained using a questionnaire. The questionnaire consisted of "Demographic information about young adults" and "Frequency and intensity of parent-young adults conflict issues". The questionnaire forms were filled by interviewing to respondents between 16 February-12 March 2008.

In this study, Allison's (2000) Parent-Adolescent Issues Checklist was adapted. The Lickert sentences about "Conflict Issues" were evaluated with four level scores: never (1), calmly (2), a little angry (3) a lot of angry (4).

Answers given to sentences typed Lickert were scored, used "Varimax Analysis Technique" for validity and items with factor loadings of 0.40 or higher were retained. Table 1 shows the scale items and their validities.

In order to test the reliability of the questionnaire was calculated "Croanbach Alpha" as inner consistency coefficient. The coefficient alphas of the three factors which accounted for 0.70, 0.71 and 0.90 of the variance explained were labeled, "household chores", "acceptable behavior" and "family rules/obligations" in conflict issues respectively (Table 1). According to data, it has been determined that the Lickert scale about "Conflict issues" were a valid and reliable instrument for this research.

Data Analysis

The data in the "Socio-demographic findings about young adults", "Frequency and intensity of parent-young adults conflict issues" sections of the study were given as percentages, and the arithmetic average of the data has been calculated. In the section of "Frequency and intensity of parent-young adults conflict issues", t-test was applied according to gender and age, also One Way ANOVA was applied academic field, number of family members and number of siblings variables. Moreover, "Pearson Correlation Matrix" was calculated in order to analyse the relationship between demographic variables about young adults and study measures.

RESULTS

Socio-demographic findings

The sample for this investigation comprised 180 young adults continuing their university education have the average age of 21.47 ± 0.13 years. The representation of male (52.7%) and female (47.2%) young adults was nearly equal in the sample. Majority of the sample were attending Ankara University. 65.0% of the young adults studying social sciences while 31.7% were studying applied sciences and, 3.3% studying health sciences. It is determined that the average number of family members was 4.83 ± 1.21 , and the average number of siblings 2.12 ± 1.08 if subjects who do not have any brothers and sisters neglected (Table 2).

Parent- Young Adults Conflict Issues

This section explores parent-young adults conflict issues with view of youngs in three sub-headings including "Conflicts about household chores", "Conflicts about acceptable behavior" and "Conflicts about family rules/obligations".

Conflicts about household chores

The frequency of most conflict issues between parent-young adults regarding household chores include cleaning up bedroom (42.2%), what they eat (39.4%), taking care of things (33.9%), grades in school (29.4%).

In terms of intensity; the conflict issues related to household chores are taking care of things ($\bar{X}=2.68$) and cleaning up bedroom ($\bar{X}=2.59$) are discussed between parent and young adults more anger than the other conflict issues (Table 3).

Table 1. Scale items and their validities and reliabilities

	Factor loadings	Corrected item total correlation
Household chores		
1. Cleaning up bedroom	0.82	0.42
2. Taking care of things	0.77	0.54
3. Grades in school	0.69	0.48
4. What I eat	0.45	0.30
Eigenvalue:1.95	Explained variance: %49	Alpha:0.70
Acceptable behavior		
5. Fighting with brothers and sisters	0.82	0.31
6. Getting in trouble	0.74	0.47
7. How I spend my money	0.71	0.43
8. Bothering me when I want to be alone	0.61	0.35
9. Lying	0.53	0.64
10. Cursing	0.48	0.51
Eigenvalue:2.58	Explained variance: %43	Alpha:0.71
Family rules/obligations		
11. Doing homework	0.83	0.61
12. Watching television	0.79	0.57
13. Selecting new clothes	0.76	0.68
14. Bed time	0.73	0.48
15. Earning my own money	0.71	0.37
16. Going places without parents	0.69	0.40
17. Coming home on time	0.68	0.48
18. Turning of the lights	0.67	0.50
19. My allowance	0.63	0.62
20. Getting to school on time	0.62	0.57
21. Cleanliness	0.57	0.68
22. Going on dates	0.56	0.48
23. Table manners	0.54	0.76
24. Choosing books or movies	0.54	0.73
25. Which clothes to wear	0.52	0.64
26. Choosing my friends	0.43	0.63
27. What time to have meals	0.43	0.51
Eigenvalue:6.98	Explained variance: %61	Alpha:0.90

¹ Thirteen items in “parent-young conflict issues” measure (1. Helping around the home. 2. Keeping the house neat. 5. Putting away clothes. 8. Using the telephone. 10. Talking back to parents. 16. Playing music too loud. 17. Getting in trouble. 20. How I spend my free time. 31. Putting feet on furniture. 36. Bothering parents when they want to be alone. 37. Smoking. 39. Drugs. 40. Drinking beer/alcohol) with factor loadings less than 0.40 were deleted.

Table 2. Socio-demographic findings

	n	%
Gender		
Female	103	57.2
Male	77	42.8
Total	180	100.0
Age		
		$\bar{X} = 21.47 \pm 0.13$
≥21	95	52.8
22≥	85	47.2
Total	180	100.0
University		
Ankara University	166	92.2
Gazi University	9	5.0
Hacettepe University	5	2.8
Total	180	100.0
Base of academic field		
Social sciences	117	65.0
Health sciences	6	3.3
Applied sciences	57	31.7
Total	180	100.0
Number of family members		
		$\bar{X} = 4.83 \pm 1.21$
2	4	2.2
3	21	11.7
4	59	32.8
5+	96	53.3
Total	180	100.0
Number of siblings		
		$\bar{X} = 2.12 \pm 1.08$
No sibling	9	5.0
1	67	37.2
2	43	23.9
3+	61	33.9
Total	171	95.0
Total	180	100.0

The results of statistical analysis show that frequency and intensity of conflict issues on household chores indicates that sentence of "Taking care of things" varied depending on gender variable ($t=4.83$, $p<0.05$), while "Grades in school" issue varied depending on academic field ($F=6.58$, $p<0.05$) and number of siblings ($F=20.33$, $p<0.01$).

Conflicts about acceptable behavior

The conflict frequency of the topics related to acceptable behavior such as "Fighting with brothers and sisters" (45.6%), "How I spend my money" (23.9%), "Bothering me when I want to be alone" (20.6%), "Getting in trouble" (18.3%), "Lying" (16.1%), "Cursing" (13.9%) were respectively.

In terms of intensity; related to acceptable behavior the sentences of "How I spend my money" ($\bar{X}=2.67$), "Getting in trouble" ($\bar{X}=2.33$), "Fighting with brothers and sisters" ($\bar{X}=2.24$), "Lying" ($\bar{X}=2.19$), "Bothering me when I want to be alone" ($\bar{X}=2.11$), "Cursing" ($\bar{X}=2.04$) are more discussed also more involved some degree of emotion or anger.

According to statistical analysis, frequency or intensity of "Fighting with brothers and sisters" varied depending on gender ($t=5.97$, $p<0.05$), age ($t=19.79$, $p<0.05$) and number of family members ($F=15.66$, $p<0.05$), while conflict about "Getting in trouble" varied depending on gender variable ($t=5.97$, $p<0.05$) (Table 3).

Conflicts about family rules/obligations

Conflict issues between parent and young adults regarding to family rules or obligations rules focus on “Coming home on time” (33.9%), “Going places without parents” (30.6%), “Going on dates” (27.2%), “What time to have meals” (27.2%), “Watching television” (26.7%), “Selecting new clothes” (26.1%), “Turning of the lights” (26.2%), “My allowance” (21.7%), “Which clothes to wear” (21.1%), “Bed time” (20.0%), “Choosing my friends” (20.0%), “Getting to school on time” (17.2%), “Cleanliness” (16.7%), “Table manners” (16.7%), “Doing homework” (12.8%), “Earning my own money” (12.2%), “Chosing books or movies” (11.7%) respectively.

Despite the lower frequency of conflict the issues of “Cleanliness” ($\bar{X}=2.87$), “Choosing my friends” ($\bar{X}=2.83$) and “Which clothes to wear” ($\bar{X}=2.76$) the intense level of them are higher. In the other word, the conflicts between parent and young adults about those issues is more intense.

The results of the statistical analysis indicated that answers about “Doing homework” sentence varied at the level of $p<0.05$ according to gender variable. When number of siblings take into account, “Selecting new clothes” ($F=14.76$, $p<0.05$), “Earning my own money” ($F=19.96$, $p<0.01$), “Turning of the lights” ($F=13.13$, $p<0.05$), “Getting to school on time” ($F=13.14$, $p<0.05$), “Chosing books or movies” ($F=26.37$, $p<0.001$) and “Choosing my friends” ($F=16.18$, $p<0.05$), sentences varied significantly. Also, answers given to “Cleanliness” ($t=6.21$, $p<0.05$) and “Table manners” ($t=4.36$, $p<0.05$) are significantly related to gender variable (Table 3).

Table 3. Frequency and intensity of conflict issues

Conflict issues	Frequency of conflict (%)	Intensity of conflict (\bar{X})
Household chores		
1. Cleaning up bedroom	42.2	2.59
4. What I eat	39.4	2.52
2. Taking care of things	33.9	2.68
3. Grades in school	29.4	2.53
Acceptable behavior		
5. Fighting with brothers and sisters	45.6	2.24
7. How I spend my money	23.9	2.67
8. Bothering me when I want to be alone	20.6	2.11
6. Getting in trouble	18.3	2.33
9. Lying	16.1	2.19
10. Cursing	13.9	2.04
Family rules/obligations		
17. Coming home on time	33.9	2.48
16. Going places without parents	30.6	2.57
22. Going on dates	27.2	2.33
27. What time to have meals	27.2	2.71
12. Watching television	26.7	2.73
13. Selecting new clothes	26.1	2.73
18. Turning of the lights	26.1	2.59
19. My allowance	21.7	2.56
25. Which clothes to wear	21.1	2.76
14. Bed time	20.0	2.72
26. Choosing my friends	20.0	2.83
20. Getting to school on time	17.2	2.55
21. Cleanliness	16.7	2.87
23. Table manners	16.7	2.67
11. Doing homework	12.8	2.48
15. Earning my own money	12.2	2.68
24. Chosing books or movies	11.7	2.76

The relationship between demographic variables and study measures

In this section, “Pearson Correlation Matrix” is calculated in order to analyse the relationship between demographic variables about young adults and study measures (Table 4).

The results of Pearson Correlation Analysis indicate that there are significant correlation between “household chores” and academic field of young adults’ ($p<0.05$); “family rules/obligations” and age ($p<0.05$), “family rules/obligations” and academic field of young adults ($p<0.05$). Also, it is found that there is a correlation between as an whole measure about conflict issues and age ($p<0.05$) and academic field of students ($p<0.05$).

Table 4. Correlation matrix for demographic variables and study measures

	Gender	Age	Base of academic field	Number of family members	Number of siblings
Measure	.014	.211*	.219*	.073	.090
Household chores	.088	.156	.230*	.062	.101
Acceptable behavior	.003	.048	.047	.087	.125
Family rules/obligations	.005	.233*	.252*	.092	.115

* $p<0.05$ ** $p<0.01$

CONCLUSION

The key function of parents is to raise the young person in as healthy manner as possible. The parents’ role is to provide the child with a safe, secure, nurturant, loving, and supportive environment, one that allows the offspring to have a happy and healthy youth. This sort of experience allows the youth to develop the knowledge, values, attitudes, and behaviors necessary to become an adult making a productive contribution to self, family, community and society.

In this research that explaining to parent-young adults conflict issues with view of young adults who indicates frequency and intensity of conflict issues between them and their parents. According to answers; frequency of most cited issues regarding household chores are about “cleaning up bedroom”, “what they eat” and “taking care of things” respectively while young adults discuss their parents about “taking care of things” and “cleaning up bedroom” most sorely.

In terms of acceptable behavior young adults discuss their parents about fighting with brothers and sisters, how they spend their money and bothering them when they want to be alone frequently. On the other hand most cited conflict issues are “how they spend their money”, “getting in trouble” and “fighting with brothers and sisters”.

Related to family rules/obligations the most cited conflict issues focus on “coming home on time”, “going places without parents”, “going on dates” and “what time to have meals”. However, despite the lower frequency “cleanliness”, “choosing friends” and “which clothes to wear” issues have the higher level of intensity.

In accordance with findings; it is understood that conflicts between parent and young adults based on some topics such as cleaning at home, time management perceptions of young adults’, spend money, communication with other family members and independent behaviors of young adults. These results may be a consequence of general socialization process, gender or cultural role differences.

This findings can supported by other studies results. For example; Deković (1999) indicated the most citing conflicts between young adults and their parents are everyday homelife including sibling, home chores and curfew. Also Allison (2000) denoted household chores and family rules or obligations as the issues which are most likely to create conflicts. Similarly Çopur and her colleagues (2007) determine “fighting brothers or sisters” as the conflict issue between parent and young which is most cited.

Are there ways parent can reduce parent-young adults conflict? Many theories believe that the best way for parents to handle solving, the goal of which is to discover a solution that satisfies both the

parents and the youngs. The approach works best when neither the parent nor the young is distracted when the discussion is restricted to a single issue and when the young's agreement to try to work out a solution is secured in advance.

The problem solving process with qualitative and supportive communication style can be applied to number of parent-young adults conflicts including such issues as choice of friends keeping a room clean, going home at time and so on. In some situation parents and the young may not be able to reach an agreement when the youngs' health or safety is at issue the parent may find it necessary to make a decision that the young is allowed to participate in the decision making process and sees that the parent is taking the youngs needs and desires seriously.

REFERENCES

- Allison, B.N. (2000). Parent-adolescent conflict in early adolescence: precursor to adolescent adjustment and behavior problem. *Journal of Family and Consumer Sciences*, 92 (5): 53-56.
- Allison, B.N. and Schultz, J.B. (2004). Parent-adolescent conflict in early adolescent. *Adolescence*, 39 (153): 101-119.
- Coakley, R. M., Holmbeck, G.N, Friedman, D., Greenley, R.N. and Thill, A. (2002). A Longitudinal Study of Pubertal Timing, Parent-Child Conflict, and Cohesion in Families of Young Adolescents With Spina Bifida. *Journal of Pediatric Psychology*. 27(5): 461-473.
- Comstock, J. (1994). Parent-adolescent conflict: A developmental approach. *Western Journal of Communication*, 58, 263-282.
- Çiftçi, A., Demir, A. and Bikos, L.H. (2008). Turkish adolescents' conflict resolution strategies toward peers and parents as a function of loneliness. *Family Therapy*, 43 (172): 911-926.
- Çopur, Z., Erkal, S. and Şafak, Ş. (2007). Annelerin 12 yaş üzeri çocuklarıyla ilişkilerinde yaşadıkları çatışmaların incelenmesi. *Hacettepe Üniversitesi Sosyolojik Araştırmalar e-dergisi*. Online: <http://www.sdergi.hacettepe.edu.tr/makaleler/cerceve.htm>.
- Dekovic, M. (1999). Parent-adolescent conflict: possible determinants and consequences. *International Journal of Behavioral Development*, 23 (4), 977-1000.
- Eckstein, N.J. (2004). Emergent issues in families experiencing adolescent-to-parent abuse. *Western Journal of Communications*, 68(4), 365-388.
- Furman, W. and Buhrmester, D. (1992). Age and sex differences in perceptions of networks of personal relationships. *Child Development*, 63 (1): 103-115.
- Garro, A., Thurman, S.K., Kerwin, M.E. and Ducette J.P. (2005). Parent/caregiver stress during pediatric hospitalization for chronic feeding problems. *Journal of Pediatric Nursing*, 20 (4):268-275.
- Grotevant, H., and Cooper, C. (1986). Individuation in family relationships: A perspective on individual differences in the development of identity and role-taking. *Human Development*, 29: 82-100.
- Harp, K., Webb, L. and Amason, P. (2007). *Family Communication Patterns and Young Adults' Conflict Styles with Romantic Partners: Two Alternative Paths of Influence*. NCA 93rd Annual Convention.
- Holmbeck, G.N., and Hill, J.P. (1991). Conflictive engagement, positive affect, and menarche in families with seventh-grade girls. *Child Development*, 62: 1030-1048.
- Lerner, R., Brennan, A.L., Noh, E.R. and Wilson, C. (1998). *The parenting of adolescents and adolescents as parents: a developmental contextual perspective*. Parenthood in America. Online: http://www.allacademic.com/meta/p195372_index.html. (access date: 01.03.2009).
- Montemayor, R. (1983). Parents and adolescents in conflict: All families some of the time and some families most of the time. *Journal of Early Adolescence*, 3: 83-103.
- Rebecca Dumlaio, R. and Botta, R.A. (2000). Family communication patterns and the conflict styles young adults use with their fathers. *Communication Quarterly*, 48 (2): 174-189.
- Renk, K., Liljequist, L., Simpson, J.E. and Phares, V. (2005). Gender and age differences in the topics of parent-adolescent conflict, *The Family Journal*, 13 (2): 139-149.

- Riesch, S.K, Gray, J., Hoeffs M., Keenan, T., Ertl, T.and Mathison K. (2003). Conflict and conflict resolution: parent and young teen perceptions. *Journal of Pediatric Health Care*, 17(1): 22-31.
- Shearman, S.M. and Dumlao, R. (2008). A cross-cultural comparison of family communication patterns and conflict between young adults and parents, *Journal of Family Communication*, 8 (3): 186–211.
- Smetana, J. and Gaines, C. (2003). Family, school, and community adolescent-parent conflict in middle-class African American families. *Child Development*, 70 (6): 1447-1463.
- Steinberg, L., Lamborn, S.D., Darling, N., Mounts, N.S. and Dornbusch, S.M. (1994). Over-Time Changes in Adjustment and Competence among Adolescents from Authoritative, Authoritarian, Indulgent, and Neglectful Families. *Child Development*, 65 (3): 754-770.
- Younnis, J. And Smollar, J. (1985). *Adolescent Relations with Mothers, Fathers and Friends*. University of Chicago Press.